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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/608,818	06/30/2000	Jiann H. Chen	81326D-W	2410

7590

11/04/2002

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EXAMINER

TSOY, ELENA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1762

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action**

Application No.

09/608,818

Applicant(s)

CHEN ET AL. *JS*

Examiner

Elena Tsoy

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1762

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 09 October 2002 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

**PERIOD FOR REPLY** [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.  
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.  
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:  
(a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);  
(b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);  
(c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or  
(d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.  
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).  
5. ☐ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☐ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.  
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) rejected: 1-22.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

8. ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.  
10. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Advisory Action*

1. Request for Reconsideration filed on October 9, 2002 under 37 CFR 1.116 in reply to the final rejection have been considered but is not deemed to place the application in condition for allowance.

*Response to Arguments*

2. Applicants' arguments filed October 9, 2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argue that fluoroelastomers (such as Viton B) of Hartley et al comprising terpolymers having monomer units in claimed range do not read on claimed thermoplastic fluorocarbon terpolymers since *fluoroelastomers* (including Viton B) and *thermoplastic fluorocarbon* terpolymers are distinctly different polymers.

The Examiner respectfully disagrees with this argument. According to published manufacturer's material (this material was faxed to Applicants), Viton B can be *thermoformed* to produce various articles such as hoses; and since a term "thermoforming" is defined by Hawley's Dictionary as "forming or shaping a **thermoplastic** sheet under heat and pressure", (*thermoformable*) Viton B fluoroelastomer of Hartley et al is supposed to have *thermoplastic* properties. Moreover, numerous US Patents, some of which were already discussed with Applicants during interviews, show that ***thermoplastic fluoroelastomers*** comprising terpolymers of claimed monomer units are **well known** in the art. For these reasons, it is the Examiner's position that the fluoroelastomers of Hartley et al and claimed thermoplastic fluorocarbon terpolymers are **not mutually exclusive** species, and therefore, the fluoroelastomers of Hartley et al would read on claimed thermoplastic fluorocarbon polymers.

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*Conclusion*

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elena Tsoy whose telephone number is (703) 605-1171. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

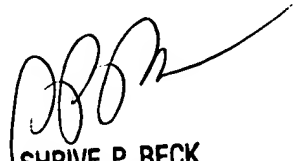
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shrive Beck can be reached on (703) 308-2333. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

ET

Elena Tsoy  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1762

October 30, 2002

  
SHRIVE P. BECK  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700